

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/723,602

Examiner

ILIA OUSPENSKI

Applicant(s)

TAMATANI ET AL.

Art Unit

1644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/28/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 138-162, renumbered 1-25.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/383,551.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892).
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendments/remarks, filed on 02/28/2007, are acknowledged.

Claims 138 – 162 are pending.

2. Applicant's Terminal Disclaimer documents against copending applications USSN 10/794,344, 10/704,056, and 10/704/072, filed on 02/28/2007, are acknowledged, and have been approved. The Terminal Disclaimer documents have obviated the previous Double Patenting rejection of record, set forth in the Office Action mailed on 01/22/2007.

3. Claims 138 – 162 are subject to a provisional rejection under the judicially created doctrine of **obviousness-type double patenting** as being unpatentable over claims 1 – 7 and 10 – 15 of copending Application USSN 10/729,880. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they are obvious one in view of the other. This would be a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection because the conflicting claims have not in fact been patented.

Given that the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection over copending USSN 10/729,880 is the only rejection remaining in the instant application, and that USSN 10/729,880 is a later-filed application relative to the instant application, this **rejection is withdrawn** to permit the instant application to issue first. See MPEP 804.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Applicant's Terminal Disclaimer documents have obviated the previous rejection of record, mailed on 01/22/2007.

Claims 138 – 162 are pending and allowed.

The prior art does not teach or suggest the claimed methods of treating inflammatory disease by administering a JTT-1 polypeptide.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ILIA OUSPENSKI whose telephone number is 571-272-2920. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on 571-272-0841. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1644


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ILIA OUSPENSKI, Ph.D.

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 1644

May 1, 2007


PHILLIP GAMBEL, PH.D. JD
PRIMARY EXAMINER
TR 1600
5/3/07